# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2858
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2000
SPURIOUS DRUG
BHIM PRASAD DAHAL

**Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government are aware of the black marketing in medicines and sale of spurious drugs in various parts of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government have received any representations from the Federation of Medical and Sales Representatives Association in this regard;

(d) the steps taken/proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

## Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) (SH SHANMUGAM)

(a) to (g) The Federation of Medical and Sales Representatives Associations of India sent a representation to the Ministry of Chemicals & Fertilizers on June 26, 1999 regarding black-marketing of medicines and increase of spurious drug sale. A meeting was held at the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) under the Ministry of Chemical & Fertilizer (Department of Chemicals & Petro- Chemicals) with the representatives of the Federation in August, 1999, where they reported about some unethical practices in the market like black-marketing, spurious drugs, theft etc. The Federation`s representation was forwarded to the Central Bureau of Investigation, as the matters pertain to inter-state criminal activities.

As per the feedback available from the State Licensing Authorities, the reported incidence of spurious drugs during the period 1997-98 based on laboratory testing is only 0.5%. A statement showing the number of samples tested and those found spurious by the Drugs Control Organisations and the prosecution launched is given in Annex.

A STATEMENT INDICATING NUMBER OF SAMPLES TESTED, FOUND SUBSTANDARD/SPURIOUS AS WEI PERCENTAGES DURING THE PERIOD 1995-96; 1996-97 AND 1997-98.

| Year | No. of samples Tested | Sub-standard | Spurious | Percentage Sub-standard | Spurious |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1995-96 | 32770 | 3490 | 100 | 10.64 | 0.30 |
| 1996-97 | 28887 | 2573 | 109 | 8.90 | 0.37 |
| 1997-98 | 25547 | 2491 | 132 | 9.75 | 0.51 |

A STATEMENT INDICATING NO. OF PROSECUTIONS LAUNCHED CASES DECIDED; CONVICTED WITH OR WITHOU FINED ONLY AND ACQUITAADS DURING THE PERIOD: 1995-96; 1996-97 AND 1997-98.

| Year | NUMBER OF PROCECUTION LAUNCHED | CASES DECIDED | CONVICTED WITH OR WITHOUT FINE | FINED ONLY | ACQUITALS |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1995-96 | 683 | 248 | 247 | 181 | 67 |
| 1996-97 | 631 | 293 | 37 | 78 | 129 |

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| 1997-98 | 504 | 156 | 82 | 25 | 56 |